

R 071124Z JUN 90  
FM AMEMBASSY BAGHDAD  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4115

C O N F I D E N T I A L BAGHDAD 03296

E.O. 12356: DECL:OADR  
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SUBJECT: INTELLECTUAL LEADERSHIP

11. CONFIDENTIAL - ENTIRE TEXT.

12. FOR THE LAST TWO DAYS, THE HEADLINE NEWS HAS BEEN SADDAM'S MEETINGS WITH A "GROUP" WHICH IS MAKING THE FINAL CHANGES IN THE DRAFT CONSTITUTION PRIOR TO DISCUSSION BY THE RCC AND THE PARTY'S REGIONAL COMMAND.

13. WE THINK DEPARTMENT'S BIOGRAPHIC FILES SHOULD REFLECT THE NAMES OF THE SIX-MEMBER GROUP WHO SADDAM HAS SPENT SO MANY HOURS WITH ON THIS IMPORTANT PROJECT AND WHOSE VIEWS, THEREFORE, WE ASSUME HE VALUES. ALL SIX, WEARING THEIR PARTY UNIFORMS, ARE PICTURED IN THE MEDIA SITTING IN WHAT IS OFTEN USED AS THE CABINET ROOM. THEY ARE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTERS SA'DUN HAMMADI AND TARIQ AZIZ, FLANKING THE PRESIDENT, PRESUMABLY REFLECTING THEIR SENIOR STATUS. NEXT TO TARIQ AZIZ IS SPEAKER SALIH (WHO IS CHAIRMAN OF THE BAGHDAD BRANCH OF THE PARTY); AND THEN AHMAD HUSAYN AL-SAMARA'I. THE LATTER CARRIES THE RANK OF A CABINET MINISTER HAVING BEEN MINISTER OF YOUTH; HE IS NOW SYG OF THE PRESIDENT'S DIWAN AND, WE ARE TOLD, HIS "FRIEND." FLANKING SA'DUN IS MINISTER OF INFORMATION JASIM AND, FINALLY, HAMID YUSUF HUMMADI.

14. HUMMADI, WITH WHOM THE AMBASSADOR FIRST HAD A SUBSTANTIVE EXCHANGE WHEN SHE WAS TRAPPED WITH HIM IN AN ELEVATOR DURING THE DOLE VISIT LAST MONTH, IS A TIKRITI AND A GRADUATE OF BAGHDAD UNIVERSITY IN ENGLISH. DEPARTMENT WILL HAVE HIS BASIC BIO, WHICH SHOWS HIS APPOINTMENT IN EARLY 1979 AS THE DIRECTOR GENERAL OF THE PRESIDENT'S DIWAN, THEN LATER THAT YEAR AS THE PRESIDENT'S PERSONAL SECRETARY. HIS ENGLISH IS EXCELLENT, AND WE ARE TOLD HE STUDIED WITH TARIQ AZIZ, WHO IS HIS GOOD FRIEND. HIS POWER IS CONSIDERABLE; E.G., A CALL FROM HIM STOPPED THE MINISTER OF INTERIOR IN HIS TRACKS AFTER HE HAD ORDERED THE REMOVAL OF THE CHECKPOINT IN FRONT OF THE EMBASSY LAST MONTH, AND WE WERE IN RECEIPT OF PROFUSE APOLOGIES FOR SEVERAL DAYS AFTER THAT.

GLASPIE